

What is claimed is:

1. An anti-rewet press fabric for a paper machine, said fabric comprising:

5 a base fabric, said base fabric being in the form of an endless loop and having an outer side and an inner side; and

a fine porous layer applied to said base fabric, wherein said fine porous layer comprises split microfibers.

10 2. The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one additional layer of material disposed between said fine porous layer and said base fabric.

15 3. The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one additional layer of material applied to an outer side of said fine porous layer.

20 4. The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein said base fabric is a fabric selected from the group consisting of woven, nonwoven, nonwoven arrays of MD or CD oriented yarns, knitted and braided fabrics.

25 5. The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 4, wherein said base fabric is an extruded mesh fabric.

30 6. The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein said base fabric is a strip of material spirally wound in a plurality of turns, each turn being joined to those adjacent thereto by a continuous seam, said base fabric being endless in a longitudinal direction, said strip material being selected from the group consisting of woven fabrics,

nonwoven fabrics, knitted fabrics, braided fabrics and extruded mesh fabrics.

5       7.    The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein said base fabric is an on-machine seamable fabric.

      8.    The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one additional layer of material comprises fiber batt.

10       9.    The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one additional layer of material is comprised of a fine woven base.

      10.   The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one additional layer of material is comprised of a non-woven structure.

15       11.   The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 3, wherein said at least one additional layer of material comprises fiber batt.

      12.   The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 3, wherein said at least one additional layer of material is comprised of a fine woven base.

      13.   The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 3, wherein said at least one additional layer of material is comprised of a non-woven structure.

25       14.   The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of said splittable microfibers comprise polyamide and polyester in the at least one fiber.

      15.   The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 14, wherein said polyamide fibers are poly[imino(1-oxo-1,6-hexanediyl)].

      16.   The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein said fine porous layer further comprising nonsplittable fiber.

17. The anti-rewet press fabric as claimed in claim 16, wherein said nonsplittable fiber is present in an amount sufficient to insure the integrity of the press fabric structure.

5           18. An industrial filtration fabric comprising:  
            a base fabric, said base fabric being in the form of an endless loop and having an outer side and an inner side; and

            a fine porous layer applied to said outer  
10 side of said base fabric, wherein said fine porous layer comprises split microfibers.

            19. The industrial filtration fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein said base fabric is a fabric selected from the group consisting of woven,  
15 nonwoven, knitted and braided fabrics.

            20. The industrial filtration fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein said fine porous layer is needle punched to said base fabric.

            21. The industrial filtration fabric as claimed  
20 in claim 18, wherein at least one of said splittable microfibers comprise polyester.

            22. The industrial filtration fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein said fine porous layer further comprising nonsplittable fiber.

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